

REMARKS

Applicants have read and considered the Office Action dated November 28, 2005 and the references cited therein. Claims 13-24 are pending in the application. In view of the following comments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 13-24.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 13, 17, and 21 have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 27 of co-pending application Serial No. 09/889,918 (hereinafter " '918 application") in view of the IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin v36 n10 10-93 p413-416. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 27 of the co-pending '918 application has been cancelled in a Supplemental Amendment filed on a date concurrent herewith. A copy of this Amendment is enclosed. Applicants respectfully submit that cancelling claim 27 in the '918 application overcomes the provisional double patenting rejection. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request allowance of claims 13-24.

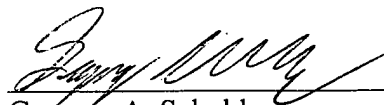
If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview may be helpful in this matter, please contact Applicants' representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



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GAS/JKS:ck